From Horizontal To Vertical Film, Changes In Mise En Scene

1st Gabriella Rizka
Departement of Communication
University of Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta
Yogyakarta, Indonesia
gabriellariska22@gmail.com

2nd Budi Dwi Arifianto
Departement of Communication
University of Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta
Yogakarta, Indonesia
buditobon.tridarma@gmail.com

Abstract

A vertical film is a film that has an aspect ratio of 9:16. The movie of X&Y is the first vertical film from TikTok Indonesia in collaboration with Studio Antelope. The purpose of this study used the descriptive qualitative method. Data collection techniques: data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclutions. The study result indicate that it is different from the horizontal film. X&Y vertical film often maximize top-down framing. The framing logic that changes in X&Y vertical film determines the type of *size shot* used. When applied to the vertical film, the *size shot* on the horizontal film will be different. X&Y film use a lot of *size shot*, such as medium closeup and close up. Using *medium shot*s and medium closeup in the vertical film gives the audience a solid and intimate impression. Changes bin *shot* size will also affect the composition of the mise en scene elements. In addition, there are also adjustments to mise en scene elements such as *lighting*, *setting*, properies, *blocking*, and *actor*s. X&Y film uses a lot of composition and top-down *blocking* to take advantage of the height of the vertical framing. The top and bottom spots appear in a vertical *frame*. X&Y movie only on the Tiktok platform. There are not many media that support viewing in a vertical format.

Keywords: X&Y Vertical film, Mise en scene, Framing

I. INTRODUCTION

The films that we usually watch are films with a horizontal format. Along with the development of film, the technology can be framed vertically. Motion image verticalization is not an exclusive phenomenon for mobile video culture. There was a debate about the vertical format not being compatible with the standardized normalization of the horizontal aspect ratio. The aspect ratio is the dimensions of the camera frame (a safe area that can be recorded) or the relationship between the width and height frame. This ratio depends on the format of the recording media. Aspect ratios that are often used in making audiovisuals are 4:3, 16:9, and 1.85:1.

In 2012, the Glove and BOOTS video "Vertical Syndrome-A PSA" went viral. This video concerns users who support vertical videos. The phenomenon was still being debated in the vertical format because they considered that vertical framing is still amateurish. The growing age of vertically oriented video views on mobile devices increased from 5% in 2010 to 29% in 2015 [1]. The aspect ratio of the vertical format has become part of the everyday experience man. They are used to accessing information through mobile screens in a vertical format. Smartphones are the destination of distribution media for meeting works with the audience. This makes vertical films and videos continue to grow.

In 2015, social media platforms such as Snapchat appeared that allow using the of vertical frames for smartphones. Snapchat's support for vertical framing as evolution by CEO Evan Spiegel [1]. A video designed to promote Snapchat's use of portrait orientation in its advertising content. The Snapchat app matches the functionality of pre-existing mobile technology. So, it intended the users to use smartphones in portrait orientation. Increasingly sophisticated technological developments support the use of smartphones. Alongside the development of smartphones, movie streaming platforms such as Netflix, Iflix, Viu, We Tv, and even TikTok have emerged. The movie streaming platform allows viewers to watch movies via smartphones. The positive response received by the public regarding vertical framing allows watching a movie playback in smartphones in vertical format.

The short film entitled X&Y is a short film produced by Studio Antelope. X&Y film is directed by Jason Iskandar. The title of this film presents the theory of the X-axis and Y-axis mathematical formulas. This story tells about the love affair between Omar hides his feelings for Winda, that were in a Friendzone relationship. The movie of X&Y is the first vertical film from TikTok Indonesia in collaboration with Studio Antelope. X&Y movie releases on TikTok in March 2021[2]. X&Y movie casts involve content creators from TikTok. TikTok videos are short, so the X&Y movie is divided into six chapters, with a total duration of 12 minutes.

The director of the Lalaland movie, Damien Chazelle, conducted a vertical film experiment. In collaboration with Apple, Damien made a vertical short film called the stunt Double [3]. The vertical film makes the compositional order change. We can define composition as we arranged image elements to give a complete and harmonious image that focuses the viewer's attention on one part of the frame at a time [4]. Frame capture area vertical film composition horizontally. The vertical film will pay more attention to the top and bottom of the frame. The Change in the composition of the vertical film will affect the mise en scene.

Mise en scene, which comes from France when pronounced as Meez Ahn Sen, literally means to put in a frame. [5]. It adapted this French term from stage art, which means The placement on stage. In the movie, the stage

limited the frames. Specifically, only things that are visible on the camera screen. Mise en scene has several elements. The elements are setting, actor, blocking, costume, and lighting. The mise en scene, along with the cinematography and film editing, affects the validity of the film or the film's belief in the eyes of the audience [6]. Various design elements will help in the film's expression. Mise en scene elements can create the impression of space, time, feel, and sometimes convey a character's state of mind.

The research discussed the mise en scene studied by Dyan' Sya, Triadi, and Evi Oktiana with the title "Analysis of Mise en scene in the film Parasite". This research has a similarity. Both of the research discuss the mise en scene in the film. The difference between the research conducted by the researchers is that the research film format is vertical and will analyze how the changes in the mise en scene occur when applied in a vertical frame. In this research, the researcher focuses more on changes in the technical aspects of cinematography, such as aspect ratio, composition, and vertical mise en scene format, which include Settings, costumes, actors, blocking, and lighting shown in the frame.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

The makes of the film must understand three elements. Such as composition, cinematography, and mise en scene. The base of the movie composition is to deliver the elements to the scene in the camera frame. Shot composition refers to the arrangement of visual elements to convey the desired message [7]. It must be a plan properly. The movie composition aims to display an attractive image. It makes the viewer focus on capturing the essence of the story. There are practices of movie composition to make the movie way more interesting, including; Rule of thirds, headrooms, noserooms, deep space composition, leading lines, and symmetrical composition. These compositional elements will help in framing the scene.

After determining the composition, the next step in movie composition is to determine the cinematography aspect. According to Brown Blain, the term cinematography comes from the Greek word meaning 'writing with motion. At its core, filmmaking is about taking pictures, but cinematography is more than just the act of photography [8]. Filmmakers must know the size of the frame used. According to Blain, framing an image is not only a matter of telling a story in a movie composition but also about composition, rhythm, and perspective [8]. The frame size, also known as the aspect ratio, is the dimensions of the camera frame (a record of the safe area) or the relationship between width and frame height. [9]. The aspect ratio has a different size for each recording media. The aspect ratio size also determines the choice of the camera, camera lens, camera position, and shot size.

Once we established the cinematographic composition. The next thing that is not less important is the mise en scene. According to Robert Edgar et al., Mise en scene comes from France. when pronounced Meez Ahn Sen, Mis En Scene means putting in the frame. Elements of the Mis En Scene; Lighting, costume, setting, actor, and blocking. The contents of the camera frame are related to each other by actors, settings, and related to the camera. 1. Setting creates a sense of place and mood. The setting can also reflect the character's

emotional state of mind. 2. Lighting is the art of regulating light by using lighting equipment. The aim of "Lighting" is that the camera can see objects. Lighting can create an illusion so that the audience gets the impression of distance, space, time, and atmosphere from an event shown in a movie. [11]. The use of lighting can help create images such as color balance, creating depth of character dimensions, highlighting objects from the background, exposure, and others. 3. The designed costumes in movies provide information about a particular role. The setting is the entire background with all its properties [12]. Overall, in the movie's form, costumes can have a variety of special functions. Costumes can play a causal role in the film's plot [13]. Makeup has various purposes in the movie. The purpose of makeup is to describe the age, wounds or bruises on the face, resemblance to a character, unique-human figure, into non-human figure [12].

4. Film actors work with cameras that record by paying attention to the mise en scene. The camera will capture facial expressions, actor actions, and movements with a closeup, medium closeup, full-shoot, long shot, and more. 5. Blocking is the performance of actors in a show. Blocking that is captured by the naked eye by composition (lens choice and camera placement along with camera movement). Blocking is the cinematographer's way of moving components in a shot [14].

III. METHOD

This study uses descriptive qualitative research methods. This study aims to analyze the changes in the mise en scene in X&Y vertical films. Qualitative descriptive research is research to describe a research result. Qualitative descriptive research is to provide a description, explanation, and validation of the phenomena that have been studied [15].

This study uses observation and documentation methods as data collection techniques. Observations were made by watching X&Y movies. The researcher will analyze the changes in the mise en scene in the X&Y vertical film after the researcher finishes watching the movie.

To analyze the data in this study, the researcher used data reduction. Data reduction makes it easier for researchers to classify rough data and draw conclusions. Data collection as the results of the used theory, reading from the internet, books, and journals. After executing the reduction of the data, the next step is to present the data. Data presentment is by watching the X&Y movie. Then the researcher will present data as findings of changes in the X&Y vertical film, especially on the mise en scene elements. The last is the conclusion. Based on the data presented by the researcher, the researcher will conclude on the changes found in the X&Y vertical film.

To ensure the validation of the data, this research use triangulation theory. The procedure of triangulation theory by the researcher combines the finding out by using chosen method. Then the researcher will analyze the changes in the mise en scene in the X&Y movie.

IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

I conducted the results to get any changes in the mise en scene in the X&Y vertical movie. Its purpose is to reference

material for film students, the film industry, or other audiences. Understand the application of mise en scene cinematography into vertical film format. I hope it can bring up creative film ideas with new styles.

A. Komposisi Pada film X&Y

The first thing that determines the change of composition is the camera. According to Nicholas, so in the movie, the camera acts the narrator, so as the language to narrate stories. [16] Film X&Y uses the smaller and more compact a7s mirrorless camera. In X&Y movies, we cannot use a cinema camera. Cinema cameras do not have vertical rigging. Based by X&Y film director Jason Iskandar, who delivered in an interview on August 23, 2022:

> "In fact, we cannot use cameras such as ARRI ALEXA or RED for verticals because the rigging is not there. All cinema camera rigging is as horizontal volume. We use Smaller and more compact cameras like Sony mirrorless. The mirrorless rigging camera is already available for rent in vertical shape".

The type of prime lens used in the X&Y vertical film is the Zeiss CP 3 lens. It stated this by X&Y film director Jason Iskandar, who told in an interview on August 23, 2022:

> "The Zeiss cp 3 lens is a full frame lens. Zeiss cp 3 lens is compatible with the default lens of the Sony A7S camera. When using a lens that is 1/35, do not automatically take advantage of the full sensor of the A7s".

Once the camera selection is complete, it is time to determine the composition. Roy Thompson and Cristoper Bowen give an opinion on composition in the movie. Composition is the arrangement of visual elements. How to placement in the overall frame is very important and will convey a particular meaning to the audience [9]. Composition of the vertical film follows the composition rules on the horizontal film. The aspect ratio of 16:9 changes to 9:16. The aspect ratio of 9:16 causes changes to the size of the shot. Closeup size rule on horizontal movie, when applied to vertical, will end with be a big closeup. Big closeups on vertical films will make the size of the human face on the screen bigger, narrower, and cramped. The size shot in the X&Y movie uses a lot of medium shot and medium closeup by the camera. Using the size shot aims so that the image is not too big. Adjusting the size of the shot requires the use of the rule of thirds to be reversed to vertical. The way the-rule of third works is to map an image into a T-junction. The division of the T-junction will make some areas look dominant and some complementary.

Changes in shot size affect the use of look rooms. Look room (also called looking room or nose room) is an empty space we provide in the frame, The empty space between talent eye and the edge of the frame opposite faces [9]. Lookroom changes occur when the scene shot using a medium closeup size shot. The sight of Omar is on the left. What happens is that the left- hand field of view becomes narrower as the subject gets closer, bigger, and fills the screen more and more.

B. Mise En Scene Film X&Y

Composition adjustments on X&Y vertical films affect the application of mise en scene. Mise en scene.

Which comes from France when pronounced as Meez Ahn Sen, literally means to put in a frame [5]. It adapted this French term from stage art, which means "placement on stage". Mise en scene elements include settings & properties, costumes & makeup,
actor, lighting, blocking & staging.

According to Pratista, the setting is the entire set with all its properties [17]. The setting used in the X&Y film is a multi-level boarding house. The location of the multi-story boarding house is also very suitable for the life of a student wandering and having to live in a boarding house. The layout of the terraced boarding houses is by the vertical framing, which is also up and down. In chapter 1, the X&Y film opens with the initial scene of Omar and Winda chatting on the balcony of the boarding house. With a long shot, you can see the layout of the position of Omar and Winda's rooms. Using the long shot aims to show the audience that Omar and Winda's rooms are indeed close together. The boarding house location's front balcony has a sizable space. The camera is set up in this area by DOP. Something can clearly describe the distance between Omar and Winda's rooms. The opinion of Joseph V Mascelli stated that it makes a moving image of many shots. All shot requires placing the camera in the best place to see the performer, setting, and action of a particular moment in the narrative [18]. Use size shot type affects how many properties should be visible in the frame. Indoor sets use dense shots and require few properties. When the shot in the movie is solid, it must have items like beautiful plant shelves, posters, bookshelves, and others to fill the top of the frame.

Regarding Bordwell, a movie's costumes are made to provide details about a specific role. For instance, consider the traits of the King, the impoverished, the wealthy, and others. Costumes may provide details about a particular setting and era. Like the scenery, outfits may serve a range of unique purposes in the overall structure of the movie [[13]. The costumes used in the X&Y movie are casual boarding house students' costumes. Winda wears an orange sweater and white shorts. Omar wore a plain navy-blue T-shirt with jeans. The costumes used in the X&Y movie are relaxed and natural. The Costumes in the X&Y Also, don't wear too many accessories. Costumes can give us detailed information on each character. Because costumes may affect a character's perception of the story's mood and atmosphere, they chose with consideration for the color scheme. Makeup has a variety of functions. Makeup depicting age, wounds or bruises on the face, resemblance to a character, unique human figures, to non-human figures. The makeup used for the characters Omar and Winda is also natural and relaxed based on the X&Y story set in a multi-story boarding house. It is not thick makeup, and the hairstyles for Omar and Winda are also quite simple, hair of Omar with short black hair, and Winda with short shoulder-length black hair that is slightly wavy.

On X&Y vertical films, the lighting is typically the same as on conventional horizontal films. The positioning of the lights makes a difference. The rear area of the location while shooting an X&Y movie was used for lighting on the external setting. Because of the internal setting's tight

quarters, lighting placement must be mounted overhead. A set of light rigging is required for the medium closeup picture. The camera took a pleasant image. Shot by the camera taken at a high elevation and eye level. Omar, Winda, the speaker, avoided using a long shot since doing so would have shown the top of the frame.

One element of the mise en scene that is crucial is the actor. The actor will incorporate all emotions, memories, and ideas into the scenario. Medium close-ups and medium shots can define the actor's facial emotions. A film's message can have an impact thanks to an actor's expression. The X&Y cast's actions are consistent with Nicholas' idea, which holds that this activity must be communicated to the audience for them to comprehend the plot. [16]. The director closely supervises the on-screen performers' movements.

The human face has a vertical shape. Vertical films work perfectly with human framing. Close up, the fulfillment of the human body is seen. The human body naturally takes on a vertical form, which can be reflected in films with vertical framing. The performer has bigger room to experiment with additional expressions and gestures thanks to the concept of framing.

Blocking in movies is a signal for players, cameras, lighting, and art. It provided information regarding the player's role, the narrative's goal, and other topics. Blocking on X&Y vertical films is a challenge. The vertical film plays more in the area above and below the frame. In chapter 2, Winda sits downstairs in front of Omar, while Omar sits downstairs behind Winda. How to block this takes advantage of the back and front rooms. Winda was in front of Omar, and Omar was behind Winda. The scene of Omar and Winda talking with the camera placed on the side parallel to the actor using camera angle eye level and solid shots. This way of blocking shows the condition of Omar's room without using a long shot because it is already covered by blocking Omar Winda's front and back. Following to the theory from the studio binder, there are three elements visually in arranged blocking, one of which is space. [19]. Using top and bottom blocking shows the character's position in the scene. Blocking in X&Y takes advantage of space on location. We must consider actor and player movement. Horizontal films have film narration, which requires a character to travel from one place to another. The forward move is suitable for vertical formats. The non-lateral (side) direction of travel, hallways, stairs, and streets can help viewers feel they are moving through time and space with the characters.

V. CONCLUSION

The development of the times and technology allows creating creative audio-visual works. There are many options for watching movies. We can use our smartphones to watch movies. Vertical frames appear because the orientation of the smartphone screen is vertical. The vertical aspect ratio is very different from the general convention of the aspect ratio of a horizontal film. Social apps appear in media whose content orientation is vertical. Filmmakers use the phenomenon of vertical-based applications to make vertical films, one of which is X&Y films. Creating a vertical film requires adjusting the framing logic. There are

four elements to get effects from application of vertical frames such as a composition, cinematography, mise en scene, and editing. Based on these four elements, we can conclude that:

1. Using composition on the top and bottom plane areas in a vertical frame. Using top-down of composition shows the character's position, mood, character relationships, and the location used
2. The difference in shot size in vertical and horizontal films. X&Y vertical films use a lot of medium shot and medium closeup sizes. The size shot in the movie X&Y highlights the expression of the actor. The size of the solid shot makes the actor's movement limited.
3. Use a lot of blocking to respond to top-down framing.

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